

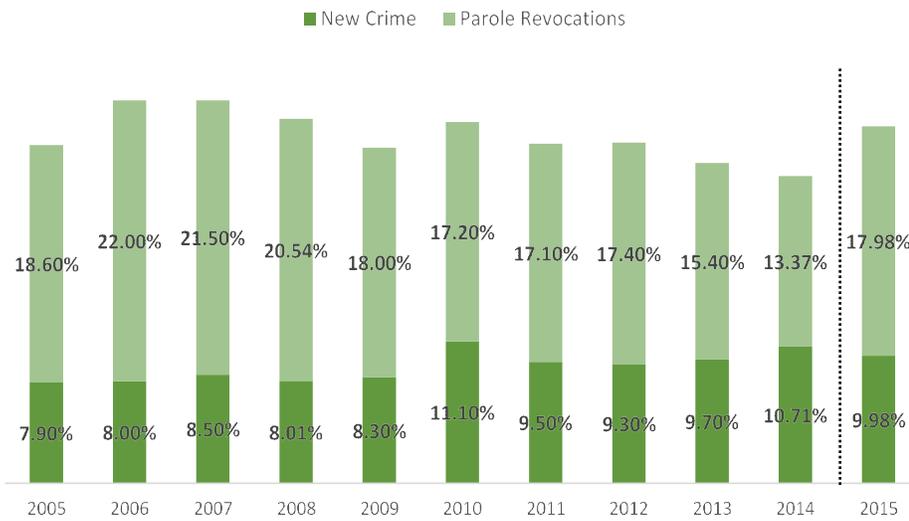
2015 WEST VIRGINIA RECIDIVISM REPORT

August 2019



This is the report of the three-year recidivism rate for all adult inmates released from a West Virginia prison or jail in calendar year 2015. Recidivism, as used in this report, is defined as an offender released during the calendar year 2015, and who was recommitted to the custody of the WV Division of Corrections & Rehabilitation (DCR) within 3 years of their release.

Recidivists by Return Type



..... represents implementation of Offender Information System (OIS)

*In 2015 a new computer system, the Offender Information System (OIS), was implemented, so it is unclear how much of the increased recidivism rate was due to a change in offender behavior or due to a change in how the data were reported. This should become clearer as future rates are reported.

HIGHLIGHTS

The 3-year recidivism rate for inmates released from DCR in 2015 is almost 28%, up nearly 4 percentage points from the previously recorded 3-year rate (based on 2014 releases; 24%). This increase, which illustrates a departure from the decreases seen beginning in 2013, was mostly comprised of parole revocations. Revocations, which had been decreasing since 2013, experienced a 4.6 point increase from the previous year. Most often the revocations had pending criminal charges (62%), as opposed to representing technical violations (38%). New crimes, which had been increasing since 2013, dropped by less than a point*.

Release Type	Releases	Recidivists	Rate
Court Order	136	51	37.50%
Discharged	801	160	19.98%
Released to Parole	2017	610	30.24%
Unknown**	160	50	31.25%
Grand Total	3114	871	27.97%

RELEASE TYPE

Most often, inmates were released to parole (2017), however those released by court order had the highest recidivism rate (38%).

Gender	Releases	Recidivists	Rate
Female	547	112	20.48%
Male	2567	759	29.57%
Grand Total	3114	871	27.97%

GENDER

Males were more likely to be a recidivist (almost 30% compared to 21% for females).

**RJA records with missing data in OIS have been categorized as "unknown" for these analyses.

AGE AT RELEASE			
Age of Category	Releases	Recidivist	Rate
Under 20	0	0	0.00
20—29	926	324	34.99%
30—39	1262	378	29.95%
40—49	582	130	22.34%
50—59	262	32	12.21%
60—69	69	7	10.14%
70+	13	0	0.00%
Grand Total	3114	871	27.97%

RECIDIVISM BY RACE			
Race	Releases	Recidivists	Rate
Asian	1	0	0.00%
Black	351	103	29.34%
Hispanic or Latino	6	2	33.33%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	1	50.00%
Multi Racial or Other	23	8	34.78%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	0	0.00%
White	2691	757	28.13%
Unknown**	39	0	0.00%
Grand Total	3114	871	27.97%

Crime Category (Original Crime)	Releases	Recidivists	Rate
Arson	32	5	15.63%
Assault	213	49	23.00%
Burglary/B&E	555	217	39.10%
Child Abuse/Neglect	74	14	18.92%
Counterfeiting/Forgery	157	39	24.84%
Destruction of Property	10	2	20.00%
Drug/Narcotic Offense	635	148	23.31%
DUI	107	18	16.82%
Embezzlement	10	1	10.00%
Fraud	92	28	30.43%
Homicide	68	10	14.71%
Kidnapping/Abduction	13	4	30.77%
Larceny/Theft Offenses	292	85	29.11%
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	1	100.00%
Other	399	119	29.82%
Pornography/Obscene Material	23	5	21.74%
Robbery	180	58	32.22%
Sex Offense, Forcible	93	17	18.28%
Sex Offense, Non Forcible	60	13	21.67%
Stolen Property	39	13	33.33%
Weapon Law Violation	29	10	34.48%
Unknown**	32	15	46.88%
Grand Total	3114	871	27.97%

AGE

The average age of inmates released in 2015 was 36, the same as reported in 2014. However, inmates between 20-29 have the highest rate of recidivism, followed by those between 30-39, consistent with 2014 findings.

RACE

The majority of inmates released in 2015 were white (86%), followed by those identifying as black (11%). Black and white inmates return at similar rates (29% versus 28%).

CRIME CATEGORY

Drug and narcotic offenses had the highest number of releases in 2015 (635), followed by burglary/B&E (555). However, the recidivism rate for burglary/B&E was much higher (39% versus 23%).

TIME SINCE RELEASE

408 of the 871 recidivists (47%) were back as a new commit or revocation in one year or less.